

IN THE CLAIMS

On the first page of the claims, line 1, change "Patent Claims" to --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.

Please cancel without prejudice original claims 1-14 and cancel the substitute claims 1-12 annexed to the International Preliminary Examination Report. Please also add new claims 15-27 as follows:

--15 . (new) A decoder device for decrypting encrypted television programs, the decoder device comprising:

    a control unit;

    an input for receiving the encrypted television program;

    a decryption device for decrypting the encrypted television program into a format reproducible by a television set;

    an output capable of being connected to the television set so as to output the decrypted television program to the television set for reproduction;

    a first interface for interfacing to at least one of a first identification and a first key carrier component for enabling the decryption device, the first interface being disposed in the control unit;

    a second interface for interfacing to the control unit;

    a third interface for interfacing to a telecommunications network; and

    a fourth interface for interfacing to at least one of a second identification and a second key carrier component, an authorization by at least one of the second identification and the second key carrier component being useable for establishing a connection to a subscriber via the telecommunications network.

16. (new) The decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the fourth interface is disposed in the control unit.

17. (new) The decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the television set includes a fifth interface for receiving control commands and wherein the control unit is capable of controlling the television set.

18. (new) The decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the first and the second identification and/or key carrier components include a respective smart card or a common smart card.

19. (new) The decoder device as recited in claim 15 further comprising a sixth interface for connecting the decoder device to a computer, the computer being adaptable for at least one of controlling the decoder device and establishing a connection to a subscriber via the telecommunications network.

20. (new) The decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the control unit includes a computer, the computer including a seventh interface for controlling the decoder device and including the first and fourth interfaces.

21. (new) The decoder device as recited in claim 15 wherein the decoder device is integrated in the television set.

22. (new) A smart card for a decoder device, the decoder device including a decryption device for decrypting the encrypted television program into a format reproducible by a television set, a control unit and a first interface for interfacing to a first identification and/or key carrier component and for enabling the decryption device, the first interface being disposed in the control unit, the smart card comprising:

a computer unit;

at least one peripheral device;

a first memory area, the first memory area being subdivided into at least a protected area and an unprotected area, an access to the protected area being a function of a check for permitted access, a general key being stored in the protected area, an external host computer being useable to enter at least one simple key and a protocol program associated with the at least one simple key under a control of the general key; and

a second memory area for storing at least parts of an operating system capable of controlling communication between the computer unit and the at least one peripheral and communication with an external host computer and capable of managing at least one of the protected and unprotected memory areas of the first memory area.

23. (new) The smart card as recited in claim 22 wherein the first memory area is further subdivided into a read/write memory area and wherein the operating system is capable of managing at least one of the read/write, the protected and the unprotected memory areas of the first memory area.

24. (new) The smart card as recited in claim 22 wherein the second memory area is capable of storing a key management useable for access to a protocol program of the at least one simple key.

25. (new) A method for a host computer of a pay TV provider to communicate with a decoder device and a smart card, the decoder device including a control unit and a decryption device for decrypting a encrypted television program into a format reproducible by a television set, the smart card including a protected memory area, a general key being stored in the protected area, the method comprising:

establishing a telecommunications connection between the host computer and the decoder device using the host computer;

checking the general key in the smart card using the host computer;

when a result of the checking is positive, communicating a simple key and a protocol program associated with the key to the smart card in encrypted form;

entering the simple key and the protocol program into the protected memory area of the smart card; and

inhibiting the protected memory area of the smart card.

26. (new) The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the smart card includes a computer unit and further comprising decrypting the key and the protocol program using the computer unit before the entering step.

27. (new) The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the decoder device further includes a first interface with a telecommunications network and the television set includes a second interface with an antenna for receiving the encrypted television program and further comprising transmitting a first data transmission traffic via the first interface and transmitting a second data transmission traffic via the second interface, the transmitting of the first and